

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

*Routine Proceedings, pages S6981–S7088*

**Measures Introduced:** Twelve bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3297–3308, S. Res. 617–619, and S. Con. Res. 94. **Page S7030**

#### Measures Reported:

S. 3301, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009. (S. Rept. No. 110–428)

S. 2657, to require the Secretary of Commerce to prescribe regulations to reduce the incidence of vessels colliding with North Atlantic right whales by limiting the speed of vessels, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 110–429) **Page S7029**

#### Measures Passed:

**Clean Boating Act:** Senate passed S. 2766, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to address certain discharges incidental to the normal operation of a recreational vessel. **Pages S6981–83**

**Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency:** Senate passed S. 3298, to clarify the circumstances during which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and applicable States may require permits for discharges from certain vessels, and to require the Administrator to conduct a study of discharges incidental to the normal operation of vessels. **Pages S6581–83**

**Recognizing the 60th Anniversary of the Integration of the Armed Forces:** Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 94, recognizing the 60th anniversary of the integration of the United States Armed Forces. **Pages S7078–79**

**United States Patent and Trademark Office:** Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. 3295, to amend title 35, United States Code, and the Trademark Act of 1946 to provide that the Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, shall appoint administra-

tive patent judges and administrative trademark judges, and the bill was then passed. **Page S7079**

#### Measures Considered:

**Stop Excessive Energy Speculation Act:** Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S. 3268, to amend the Commodity Exchange Act, to prevent excessive price speculation with respect to energy commodities. **Pages S6985–97, S6997–S7025**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By a unanimous vote of 94 yeas (Vote No. 183), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill. **Page S6993**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill at approximately 10 a.m., on Wednesday, July 23, 2008, and that the time during the adjournment count post-cloture; provided further, that the time until 11 a.m. be equally divided with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the Republicans controlling the first half of the time and the Majority controlling the final half; and that the time from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. be equally divided and controlled by the two Leaders, or their designees, in 30 minute alternating blocks of time, with the Republicans controlling the first 30 minutes and the Majority controlling the next 30 minutes. **Page S7087**

#### House Messages:

**Block Burmese JADE Act:** Senate concurred in the amendments of the House of Representatives to the amendments of the Senate to H.R. 3890, to amend the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 to impose import sanctions on Burmese gemstones, expand the number of individuals against whom the visa ban is applicable, expand the blocking of assets and other prohibited activities, clearing the measure for the President. **Pages S7079–84**

**Message from the President:** Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting certification that the export of certain materials and equipment for production of nutritional supplements is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry and will not measurably improve missile or space launch capabilities of the People's Republic of China; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (PM-58)

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**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Glenn T. Suddaby, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of New York.

Pages S7084-87, S7088

Cathy Seibel, of New York, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

Pages S7084-87, S7088

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

25 Army nominations in the rank of general.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Army, Navy.

Pages S7029-30, S7087-88

**Measures Read the First Time:** Page S7029

**Enrolled Bills Presented:** Page S7029

**Executive Reports of Committees:** Page S7029

**Additional Cosponsors:** Pages S7030-32

**Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:** Pages S7032-78

**Additional Statements:** Pages S7027-28

**Notices of Hearings/Meetings:** Page S7078

**Authorities for Committees to Meet:** Page S7078

**Privileges of the Floor:** Page S7078

**Record Votes:** One record vote was taken today. (Total—183) Page S6993

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:31 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 23, 2008. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S7087.)

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Michael Bruce Donley, of Virginia, to be Secretary, General Norton A. Schwartz, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Chief of Staff, who was introduced by Senator Stevens, and General Duncan J. McNabb, for reappointment to the grade of general

and to be Commander, United States Transportation Command, who was introduced by Senator Conrad, all of the United States Air Force, Department of Defense, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

### NOMINATIONS

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee ordered favorably reported 1,981 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

### GLOBAL WARMING

*Committee on Environment and Public Works:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine global warming, focusing on an update on the science of climate change and its implications, after receiving testimony from Roy W. Spencer, University of Alabama in Huntsville; Kevin E. Trenberth, National Center for Atmospheric Research, Boulder, Colorado; and Jason Burnett, Washington, D.C.

### INDIAN GOVERNMENTS AND TAX CODE

*Committee on Finance:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine Indian governments and the tax code, focusing on maximizing tax incentives for economic development, after receiving testimony from Dante Desiderio, National Congress of American Indians, Washington, D.C.; Donald Laverdure, Crow Nation Executive Branch, Crow Agency, Montana; and Wayne Shammel, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, Roseburg, Oregon.

### ENERGY SECURITY

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Committee concluded a hearing to examine ways for the United States to gain energy security, focusing on the importation and exportation of oil, development of new energy resources, and ways for the United States to be less dependent on foreign oil, including S. 3303, to require automobile manufacturers to ensure that not less than 80 percent of the automobiles manufactured or sold in the United States by each manufacturer operate on fuel mixtures containing 85 percent ethanol, 85 percent methanol, or biodiesel, after receiving testimony from T. Boone Pickens, BP Capital Management, Dallas, Texas; Gal Luft, Institute for the Analysis of Global Security (IAGS), and Geoffrey Anderson, Smart Growth America, both of Washington, D.C.; and Joseph Dagher, University of Maine, Orono.

### PAY-FOR-PERFORMANCE SYSTEMS

*Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:* Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine improving worker performance relating to a review